

David Bannister Morgan to Andrew Jackson, January 8, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

1 Copy. See vol. II., p. 135.

Head Quarters Drafted Militia, West Bank, Mississippi, January 8, 1815.

Sir, I have been obliged to retreat about one mile and a half, and with difficulty have been able to form again. I have to ascribe my retreat principally to the Kentucky Regiment under Colo. Davis, running soon after the commencement of the action in our lines; the men broke and I could not rally them. My force is only now, about half what it was at the commencement of the action. the men have ran away, some few killed. My whole force is now about 800 men, many of them badly armed, and all much fatigued, have not eat any thing since yesterday. I have sent for provisions. The weather is so thick that I cannot see 150 yards. I calculate on attacking the moment I can refresh my men a little.

I have received your order by Mr. Lafeete and feel anxious to obey, but I am affraid my men are not good pluck. I could wish some more men if they can be spared. I am told about 300 men are at the Powder Magazine, but, have no arms. Mr. Lafeete will hand you this, who will inform you further.

Respectfully Your Obt.

P.S. I expect Mr. Lafeete senr. will return to this place immediately.

[*Certification:*] I certify that the foregoing has been carefully examined and that it is a true copy from the original; and is filed with it in consequence of its having been written with a pencil and subject to become defaced.

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Robert Butler

Adj. General